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	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/671,791	WATANABE ET AL.
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit
	Helen L. Pezzuto	1713
The MAILING DATE of this communication appearance All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this ap or other appropriate communication GHTS. This application is subject t	plication. If not included n will be mailed in due course. THIS
1. \square This communication is responsive to $9/30/05$.		
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-10</u> .		
 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority una) All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: 	been received. been received in Application No	
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.	of this communication to file a reply ENT of this application.	complying with the requirements
4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subminiformal PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give	itted. Note the attached EXAMINER as reason(s) why the oath or declara	S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF ation is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus	t be submitted	
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers		948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date	Amendment / Comment or in the C	Office action of
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1, each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the	84(c)) should be written on the drawine header according to 37 CFR 1.121(ngs in the front (not the back) of d).
DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT I	sit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL r FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGIC	must be submitted. Note the AL MATERIAL.
 Attachment(s) 1. ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. ☑ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. ☑ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date 9/29/03 4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material 	6. ☐ Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Dat 8), 7. ☐ Examiner's Amendr	te

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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's election with traverse, of Group I, claims 1 and 10 (new) filed in the response on 9/30/05 are acknowledged. Applicant's traversal on the restriction requirement is found to be convincing. Accordingly, claims 1-10 are under consideration in this application.

Prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, do not fairly suggest or disclose the instant lactone ring-containing (meth)acrylate compound, polymer and resist composition derived therefrom. Closest prior art, US 6,517,994 B2, hereby made of record, teaches a polymerizable lactone-ring containing (meth)acrylate, wherein the substituents corresponding to the instant R² are hydrogen atoms. There is insufficient motivation provided in US 6,517,994 to replace the hydrogen atoms with the claimed straight, branched or cyclic monovalent hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms (i.e. methyl groups in claim 10), or two R² bonding together to form a ring structure as presently recited. Accordingly, the instant invention as defined by claims 1-10 are allowable with respect to prior art of record.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Helen L. Pezzuto whose telephone number is (571) 272-1108. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM to 4 PM, Monday thru Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu can be reached on (571) 272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Helen L. Pezzat

Primary Examiner

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